



STEVEN P. RODERMUND
Registrar of Voters

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 11298
Santa Ana, California 92711

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
1300 South Grand Avenue, Bldg. C
Santa Ana, California 92705
(714) 567-7600
TDD (714) 567-7608
FAX (714) 567-7627
www.ocvote.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 1, 2004

CONTACT: Neal Kelley or Brett Rowley
(714) 567-5139 (714) 567-7623

Early Voting Set to Begin at John Wayne Airport

**** Press conference set for Tuesday, October 5, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. - OC Voters can cast their ballots during October at John Wayne Airport.***

SANTA ANA, CA – September 30, 2004 – Orange County voters will be the first voters to cast their ballots at an airport before Election Day. Utilizing the county's electronic voting system, early voting will be open to the public from October 5th – 29th at John Wayne Airport; the first airport in the country to be used as a polling place. **Participating in the press conference will be Registrar of Voters, Steven P. Rodermund and Airport Director, Alan Murphy. The press conference will be held in front of the John Wayne Statue on the lower level near baggage claim, 10/5/04 at 1:00 p.m. (Airport address - 18601 Airport Way, Santa Ana, CA)**

"We are pleased to provide Orange County residents with a greater opportunity to be involved in the electoral process," said Steve Rodermund, Registrar of Voters. Voting stations at the airport will be staffed from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm Monday through Saturday and from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm on Sunday. "The early voting program allows Orange County voters flying in and out of John Wayne Airport the flexibility to vote around their busy schedules," Rodermund said.

During early voting, citizens may only vote in accordance with their on-file voter information. Voters who have moved or changed political parties or are not registered need to complete and submit their registration material, which must be processed by the Registrar of Voters before they are permitted to vote. Citizens will have the opportunity to register to vote until October 29th during which all early voting sites will have registration materials available. Only ticketed passengers will be allowed to vote at John Wayne Airport (both polling sites are located on the secure side of the terminal). However, there are 26 additional locations throughout the county for those that may not be traveling out of John Wayne Airport.

"We are proud to be the first airport in the country to be a polling place and excited to be part of the elections process," said Alan Murphy, Airport Director. "We are pleased to offer this vital service to our passengers who are looking for more flexibility in their busy schedules".

Early voting in Orange County will take place at 27 locations throughout the county including Albertsons (12), city halls, malls, University of California, Irvine, and of course County facilities such as the Registrar of Voters, Hall of Administration and John Wayne Airport. A full list of locations is provided on the Registrar of Voters' website at www.ocvote.com.

Voting Made Easy and Secure

No matter where they live in the County, early voters will be able to cast their ballots at any of the early voting polling places. The new electronic voting system is connected to the main database at the Registrar of Voters so that once a voter has cast a ballot; his or her name is flagged in the system to prevent the voter from voting again.

Voting More Accessible to Disabled and Non-English Speaking Citizens

The eSlate electronic voting system has an audio component that allows voters who are blind to vote unassisted for the first time in this county. Additionally, the eSlate system offers tactile switches or a "sip-and-puff" device to ensure that voters who have severe upper body mobility impairments may also cast their ballot privately and independently. As required by law, the eSlate system will give voters five languages to choose from including English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish and Vietnamese.

No Local Tax Dollars Used

The new electronic voting system was funded by the federal Help America Vote Act and Proposition 41 state funds.

eSlate is a trademark of Hart InterCivic, Inc.

###